



**SUBJECT: FAIR TRADE POLICY**

**Policy No: 2016-21**

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## **PURPOSE**

The purpose of this policy is to establish guidelines with respect to the Fair Trade Movement, its principles and how they should relate to the Innisfil Public Library.

## **POLICY**

### **Scope**

This policy applies to all employees and volunteers in all branches and to outside organizations booking library facilities as much as is possible.

### **Definitions**

**Fair Trade** is a trading partnership, based on dialogue, transparency and respect, that seeks greater equity in international trade. It contributes to sustainable development by offering better trading conditions to, and securing the rights of, marginalized producers and workers. Fair Trade organizations, backed by consumers, are engaged actively in supporting producers, awareness raising and in campaigning for changes in the rules and practice of conventional international trade.

**Fairtrade** describes the certification and labeling system governed by Fairtrade International. The Fairtrade system allows consumers to identify goods that have met internationally agreed Fairtrade Standards.

**Fairtrade Certification Mark** is an independent consumer label which appears on products to signify that Fairtrade standards have been met.

**Fairtrade**<sup>[SB1]</sup> **Canada** is a national, non-profit Fair Trade certification organization that is recognized as a reputable certification and licensing body which provides internationally acknowledged standards.

## **General**

The Fair Trade movement shares a vision of a world in which justice and sustainable development are at the heart of trade structures and practices so that everyone, through their work, can maintain a decent and dignified livelihood and develop their full human potential.

The Library is committed to assisting all peoples in their efforts to attain the best possible quality of life, specifically for the residents of the Town of Innisfil, and for everyone in general. The Fair Trade movement and the Innisfil Public Library share a vision of a just world where all people are treated fairly, including economically.

## **Guidelines**

Whenever and wherever possible, the Library will strive to promote and support the advancement of Fair Trade in Innisfil through education and the use of fair trade products.

These products will be identified by *Fairtrade Canada's* Fair Trade Certified mark in order to guarantee that it has been 'Fair Trade Certified'. This usage includes but is not limited to the use of Fairtrade tea, coffee, and sugar in staff rooms, library meetings and for public use. When outside organizations book library facilities, the Library will encourage the use of Fairtrade certified refreshments. Similarly, all staff will be encouraged to purchase Fairtrade certified products for personal use in library facilities (such as lunch rooms) and for library meetings and programs.

## **Resources**

*'A Charter of Fair Trade Principles', written in 2009 by the World Fair Trade Organization and Fairtrade Labelling Organizations International*

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Supersedes Policy #2012-05, approved May 22, 2012, Motion #2012.40